

OPINION 2110 (Case 3253)

Libellula aenea Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Cordulia aenea*) and *L. flavomaculata* Vander Linden, 1825 (currently *Somatochlora flavomaculata*; Insecta, Odonata): usage of the specific names conserved by the replacement of the lectotype of *L. aenea* with a newly designated lectotype

Abstract. The Commission has ruled that the current usage of the names of two dragonfly species, *Libellula aenea* Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Cordulia aenea*) and *L. flavomaculata* Vander Linden, 1825 (currently *Somatochlora flavomaculata*), is conserved by the replacement of the lectotype of *L. aenea* with a newly designated lectotype. In 1956, Fraser had designated one of Linnaeus's specimens as the lectotype of *L. aenea*. However, the specimen he designated was the one used by Vander Linden to denote his species *L. flavomaculata* and this action made *L. aenea* a senior objective synonym of *L. flavomaculata*.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Insecta; Odonata; CORDULIIDAE; *Cordulia aenea*; *Somatochlora flavomaculata*; dragonflies.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that all type fixations for the nominal species *Libellula aenea* Linnaeus, 1758 are set aside and the female specimen no. 769 in the collection of the Linnean Society of London is designated as the lectotype.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *aenea* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Libellula aenea* and as defined by the lectotype designated in (1) above;
 - (b) *flavomaculata* Vander Linden, 1825, as published in the binomen *Libellula flavomaculata* and as defined by specimen no. 768 in the collection of the Linnean Society of London.

History of Case 3253

An application to conserve the current usage of the names of two dragonfly species, *Libellula aenea* Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Cordulia aenea*) and *L. flavomaculata* Vander Linden, 1825 (currently *Somatochlora flavomaculata*), by the replacement of the lectotype of *L. aenea* with a newly designated lectotype, was received from R. Jödicke (*Am Liebfrauenbusch 3, Westerstede, Germany*) and J. van Tol (*National Museum of Natural History Naturalis, RA Leiden, The Netherlands*) on 8 August 2002. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 60: 272–274 (December 2003). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. Two comments in support of this case were published in BZN 61: 42, 110.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 2004 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 60: 273–274. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2005 the votes were as follows: 21 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, no Commissioners voted AGAINST, Evenhuis, Kerzhner and Ng were on leave of absence; no vote was received from Böhme.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

aenea, *Libellula*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 544.

flavomaculata, *Libellula*, Vander Linden, 1825, *Monographiae libellulinarum Europaearum specimen*, p. 19.